19 OFFICERS HONORED

The Silver Star is awarded to employees who have displayed courageous actions above and beyond that normally expected. These acts of courage do not rise to the level of the voluntary risk of life requirements for the Medal of Valor, but are displays of exemplary acts of bravery.

For their role in the shooting incident at Lewis & Clark High School on September 22, 2003, Spokane Police Department honored 19 officers with the Silver Star Award.

On the morning of September 22, 2003, a student at L.C. entered the building armed with a 9mm handgun. While in a classroom on the third floor, the student threatened fellow students and a teacher with the gun and fired rounds inside the room. At 1110 hours, officers were dispatched to L.C. on a “subject with a weapon” call.

The following enumerates the actions of these officers:

- Detective Jon Anderson and Officers John Gately, Kevin Keller, Stephanie Kennedy, Alan Edwards and Nate Spiering were able to determine the suspect’s location and move to that location using team tactics. During this incident, they isolated the suspect and prevented injury to other students, staff and officers. The subject was contained and dealt with professionally throughout the incident. Officer Gately also performed the duties of primary negotiator during this incident.

- Corporal Brad Hallock, Detective Bill Marshall, and Officer Colin Conway entered the building and moved to the third floor where they joined other officers in securing the suspect and providing cover for officers engaged with the armed suspect.

- Officers Dan Waters, Larry House, Mike Fetcho, Ralph Weir and Bill Schaber entered the building and moved to the third floor. After being joined by other officers, they were able to determine the suspect’s location and secure it.

- Officers Russ Coffman and Mylissa Coleman along with Reserve Officer Tom Barber received information about the suspect’s location and moved to the third floor. They assisted other officers in locating and securing the suspect.

- Sergeant Troy Teigen and Detective Paul Lebsock moved to the third floor and provided support to officers while they negotiated with the suspect.
19 OFFICERS HONORED

These officers responded to the call of a subject with a gun at Lewis & Clark High School. They responded quickly and dealt with a difficult situation in a very professional manner. Since a large number of students were present, this call was made even more difficult and complex. These officers responded where considerable threat to their safety was present. The department is proud to recognize them with the Silver Star Award.

Sergeant Troy Teigen, Corporal Brad Hallock, Detective Jon Anderson, Detective Paul Lebsock, Detective Bill Marshall, Officer Bill Schaber, Officer Mike Fetcho, Officer Russ Coffman, Officer Larry House, Officer Mylissa Coleman, Officer Ralph Weir, Officer Dan Waters, Officer John Gately, Officer Nate Spiering, Officer Stephanie Kennedy, Officer Kevin Keller, Officer Alan Edwards, Officer Colin Conway and Reserve Officer Tom Barber were all issued the Silver Star Bar, to be worn on their uniform. They were awarded the Silver Star Medal at our annual Employee Awards Ceremony in February of 2004.